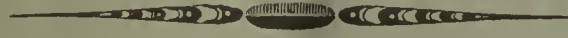


WOMBWELL LOCAL BOARD.



REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR 1893.

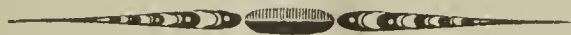


Wombwell :

PRINTED BY ALBERT TAYLOR, STATION ROAD.

—
1894.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report. Population :— I estimate the population at the middle of 1893 to be 11,500. Taking into consideration other conditions well known to me in the district, such as the amount of labour employed, the scarcity of houses, and the quantity of lodgers (single and families), together with the natural excess of births over deaths, I should say the population is now 11,852. At the last census there were 1,987 houses, giving an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons per house ; this average is still maintained. There are now in the Township 2,155 houses, 87 of which were built in 1893. The demand for houses is still beyond the supply.

There were 262 male and 232 female births registered, the birth-rate being 42·9 per 1,000, as against 46·3 per 1,000 per annum in 1892. There were 161 male and 115 female deaths, the death rate being 24 per 1000 per annum. This latter is much higher than usual, & is a good deal attributable to the increased infantile rate (217 per 1000 births) whilst Measles, Diarrhœa, Bronchitis and Phthisis have been usually fatal.

Under the Notification Act, I received 127 notices of Zymotic Disease, distributed in the different districts as follows :—

	WOMBWELL, proper.	HEMINGFIELD.	JUMP.
Typhoid Fever	41	1	10
Smallpox	20	0	0
Scarlet Fever	20	2	18
Membrane Croup	5	0	1
Erysipelas	4	0	2
Diphtheria	3	0	0
Total	93	3	31

From Diphtheria and Erysipelas there were no deaths, from Croup 4.

TYPHOID FEVER :—This caused 8 deaths out of the 52 cases. There is no doubt many of these were from seasonal causes, but 24 occurring at New Wombwell at various periods were caused as I repeatedly reported to you, through damage to a drain. The ground around was tainted with sewage, and in many instances the latter gained access to the cellars. Attention must be given to the proper levelling of this drain, when the new sewage plot is ready for use. Only 2 patients were sent to the Kendray Hospital, no beds being available.

SCARLET FEVER seems to have been of a very mild type, & had an erratic course. It never attacked many houses at one time. The greatest number was 10 at Jump in the month of December. It occasioned only 1 death.

SMALLPOX :—From 1872 till 1893 there has been no epidemic of Smallpox, and there was a marked difference between the means of coping with the disease in these years. By notification, Hospital isolation, immediate disinfection, and revaccination of the inmates of

houses attacked, and of their neighbours, the disease was stamped out without a single death. It was difficult at first to trace the origin, but there is no doubt the first case was that of an unvaccinated child some 3 years old. The place of residence was a "Public House". The parents adhered stubbornly to the opinion that it was chickenpox. Everyone in the house however, including servants (excepting the landlord who had already had smallpox) took the disease and were despatched to the Hospital. I vaccinated the child that was supposed to have chickenpox but without success. The Public House was put in quarantine for about 3 weeks. Attached to the house was a bowling ground, much frequented, and it is evident that this was the means of spreading the disease, as nearly all the patients had been there, or had come in contract with those that had. All cases were sent to the Hospital with the exception of 2 whom I found ignorant of their having the disease, and whom I kept in domestic quarantine.

MEASLES have been more than usually present in 1893, being only absent during 4 months. A severe epidemic visited us during May and June—Surrounding Villages being attacked at the same time. We have had 21 deaths from it.

Deaths from injuries and self-destruction were 11.

DIARRHŒA was epidemic in July and August, causing 39 deaths all amongst children.

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY TRACT caused 61 deaths. The last month of 1893. will be remembered as having the highest death rate known in Wombwell—41 died.

NUISANCES :—59 notices were served for abatement of these. All were attended to.

RECOMMENDATIONS :—1st, There are a few old houses which have no sinks or any means of conveying sewage away. I should recommend these to be attended to at once.

2nd, The following districts have their yards in a very unsatisfactory condition :— Mitchell Main district, Back Alma street, New Wombwell, and Whitehead's Row in Hawson street. If these cannot be paved, they should at least be covered with engine ashes, or similar material. They have a greasy, uneven appearance, nowhere else to be found in the Township.

3rd, I find that Mr. Whitehead's houses in Hawson street, 25 in number, are supplied by one shallow well, yielding an insufficient quantity of water, and in a situation liable to contamination. I find the supply is so scanty, that water for domestic purposes, is begged from a neighbouring property, and taken also from the canal. There is no necessity surely for this, whilst the supply of Dearne Valley Water is ample and safe. Appended are the usual Tables. and I remain,

Yours Obediently,

JOHN N. MILLAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

WOMBWELL URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES at subjoined ages.		MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES.																									
Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25	25 and under 60.	60 and up- wards.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not Spasmodic).	Whooping Cough.	CONTINUED FEVERS.			Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyæmia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Epidemic Diseases, Influenza.
												Typhus.	Enteric, or Typhoid.	Other, or Doubtful.													
107	55	20	11	45	38	0	21	1	0	4	7	0	8	0	39	0	2	0	0	0	0	26	61	7	11	0	0

AREA (Acres).	Estimated Population, end of 1893.	BIRTHS.			DEATHS.			ANNUAL RATES PER 1,000.					INFANT MORTALITY. Deaths under one year per 1,000 Births.
		Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Phthisis Death Rate.	Respiratory Death Rate.	
3,851	11,852.	262	232	494	161	115	276	42.9	24	6.8	2.3	5.3	217

